The public service also had degenerated a great deal for want of a responsible form of Government.

In order to remedy these evils a Government that was responsible to the people should be established in the country.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Viswanatha Pillai, I will give a collective reply on the subject of responsible Government to all the members who may speak now on the subject.

188. Constitutional reforms.

MR. P. N. MADHAVAN PILLAI (*Member, Trivandrum taluk, Group I*) prefaced his representation by expressing the gratitude of the country towards Mr. V. P. Madhava Rao, the founder of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. He then said that in British India, the people were agitating for "Dominion Status". While that part of India was progressing in this manner, it was not proper that the Indian States should remain unchanged. In respect of education, Travancore was in the fore-front of Indian States and was quite fit for responsible Government. The establishment of such a Government would only redound to the credit of the Ruler. It would also help to put down the communal quarrels which were vitiating the political atmosphere of the country. The constitution and powers of the Legislative Council should therefore be revised as also of the Sri Mulam Popular Assembly. An Executive Council should also be established.

DEWAN'S REPLY: Mr. Madhavan Pillai, I will deal collectively with all the representations on the subject of constitutional changes after all the members have spoken on the subject.

189. Constitutional reforms with reference to the existing self-governing institutions in the State.

MR. V. SANKARA MENON (*Member, Municipal Council, Trivandrum*) pointed out that the Municipal Councils Regulation made no distinction between big municipalities like that of Trivandrum with a revenue of a few lakhs of rupees and small municipalities like that of Colachel or Haripad whose income did not exceed a few hundreds of rupees. The result was that the efficient working of the Trivandrum municipality was hampered in many ways. It was highly necessary that the constitution of the Council should be re-modelled on up-to-date lines. There should be a Chief Executive Officer appointed for the municipality, while the council should have the right of electing its own president. The functions of the two officers should be carefully allocated. The Council should be enabled to co-operate with the Government in the matter of water-supply, street lighting, drainage etc. The grant formerly paid to the municipality should be restored. If this was not practicable, the municipality should be allowed a portion of the land and abkari revenue derived by Government from the municipal area.

A committee should be appointed to investigate and report on the feasibility of bringing out a uniformity in municipal laws and proceedure.

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